

Research Project

Comparative study in adolescent oncofertility decision making

Third-party funded project

Project title Comparative study in adolescent oncofertility decision making

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Organisation / Research unit

Ethik / Bio- und Medizinethik (Elger)

Department

Project start 01.04.2015

Probable end 31.08.2016

Status Completed

With rising survival rates of childhood cancers, physicians now have to increasingly address quality of life issues for their patients. A main concern related to quality of life for childhood cancer survivors is the possible negative effects that cancer therapies can have on their reproductive health. To secure these patients' option to have biological children, techniques of fertility preservation are employed, some of which are established practice and others only experimental. To date, very little is known about adolescents' decision making with regard to these fertility preservation options. Thus, the aim of this project is to study how decisions are made regarding fertility preservation in paediatric oncology. The proposed research uses a mixed-methods approach. First, quantitative surveying of pediatric oncologists in Switzerland, Israel, and the United States will take place. The survey will help us understand their attitudes and practices towards fertility preservation for their adolescent patients. Second, adolescent cancer survivors (12 -17 years) and their parents from the aforementioned countries will be interviewed regarding the decisions they have made concerning fertility preservation. This comparative study allows us to investigate whether culture influences these decisions. The findings of this study can assist with developing culturally sensitive guidelines for discussions and counseling of fertility preservation for individuals of or prior to reproductive age.

Financed by

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ID	Kreditinhaber	Kooperationspartner	Institution	Laufzeit - von	Laufzeit - bis
3720033	Wangmo, Tenzin	Provoost, Veerle, Prof.	Ghent University	01.06.2016	31.12.2019